



SELECTIVE WASTE COLLECTION AND THE INCLUSION OF WASTE AND RECYCLABLE MATERIAL COLLECTORS IN FORMAL WORK

Sustainability and Tourism

The municipality of Forquilha, meeting the requirements of the National Solid Waste Policy instituted through Federal Law No. 12,305 / 2010, realized the Municipal Plan for Integrated Solid Waste Management - PMGIRS.

Considering the need to implement a new management model (collection, sorting, processing, marketing and support for waste and recyclable material collectors), the Municipality of Forquilha submitted a project to the National Health Foundation - FUNASA to raise funds for the implantation of a sorting center, acquisition of equipment and a truck for selective collection, being approved in 2011.

In May 2012, the activities began at the waste sorting center. The structure has an office, kitchen, cafeteria, changing room, toilets, storage and sorting bays with receiving hopper, sorting conveyor, baler press, paper shredder, industrial scale, and two forklifts.

The waste sorting center is operated by the Forquilha recyclable material collectors association – ACAFOR. This center was founded on May 21, 2012, and currently has 14 associates. The recyclable material collectors who previously were carrying out the collection individually, exposed to various situations, today have a better condition of life and work. Currently, the ACAFOR sorts, classify and sells approximately 60 tons of recyclable material per month.

In 2018, Forquilha competed for the Progridir 2017 award that was promoted by the ministry of social development with the project “Valorization and inclusion of waste and recyclable material collectors”. The Progridir award, which has a national context, seeks to reward public policy projects in municipalities that aims to include low-income people or those in a situation of social vulnerability in the world of work.

The selective waste collection was implemented in all neighborhoods in the municipality and is executed door to door on different days of conventional collection. The citizens that aim to participate in the selective collection just need to separate the recyclable material (paper, cardboard, plastic, glass, metal, and styrofoam) from the non-recyclable materials and place it below the trash can on the day that the selective waste collection truck passes in the neighborhood.

Environmental education is carried out through door-to-door, schools, mother’s club, with the elderly, commerce, visits to the waste sorting center and communication vehicles (radio, folders, posters, banners, stickers, fridge magnets, billboards, and others), in order to increase awareness and inform the population about the local environmental reality, as well as to show and/or indicate the role and responsibility of society related to the environment.

In 2019, 14 selective containers were installed in the areas with the highest commercial concentration, aiming to encourage and facilitate the correct disposal of recyclable waste, ensuring than the right destination.

The solid residues generated by activities subject to environmental licensing must be sent to the environmentally correct place according to their classification.

The Forquilha's Community collaboration is essential, as the separation of recyclable waste results in benefits such as the reduction of waste that would be disposed of in a landfill, reduction of natural resources extraction and consequently improvement of the environment, in addition to social inclusion and better quality of life for waste and recyclable material collectors. Besides, this good practice contributes to the quality of life of all people from Forquilha, making this city a reference for the region in corporativism and cultural character.

Currently, Forquilha plans to use its cultural characteristics for the development and promotion of tourism. For that, it is needed to look carefully to its main pillars: culture and heritage, sustainability, environment and landscape, infrastructure and all its urban and rural mobility, tangible and intangible attractions, gastronomy, and valorization of local production.

People are looking for places in the middle of nature, the search for cultural experiences that involve everything from the countryside hospitality to the festive cultural events, the curiosity to see and review the past by visiting places that preserve the material and immaterial heritage, especially their historic buildings, the desire to taste new flavors with typical cuisine and home-cooked food, all this is returning due to this yearning for what was simple and natural. People want to find places in these places that offer all these experiences and a city where you can walk and cycle with tranquility and security, streets, sidewalks, and clean and organized environments, they want to be absorbed by the local culture and enjoy the maximum experience as if they belong to the community, they want to find cities concerned with our environment, our home.

Forquilha through the selective waste collection and the inclusion of waste and recyclable material collectors in formal work develops its good practice so that local tourism is more sustainable.

<https://www.forquilha.sc.gov.br/cms/pagina/ver/codMapaltem/52301>

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